

COSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION

NEWSLETTER

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Inside...

- 2 The Kosciuszko Foundation Ball
- 5 From our Trustees
- 8 President's Column
- 9 Josef Tischner Fellowship
- 10 Grzybowski Collection
- 11 Chamber Music Series
- 12 Norman Davies
- Nostromo at 100: Joseph Conrad
- From the Development Director
- 16 Chapter News
- 20 Calendar of Events

he Kosciuszko Foundation 60 \$\@\ 70 \@\ 80

Annual Dinner and Ball honored Christine

Baranski, Norman Davies and Ewa Podles.

Nine debutantes were presented.

The Kosciuszko Foundation Dinner and Ball was a dazzling evening of dining, dancing and debutantes, with over 750 guests filling the Grand Ballroom of New York's Waldorf=Astoria on April 30. As the premier social event in the Polish American community and the major fund raising activity in support of the Foundation's educational and cultural programs, this year's Ball was a significant success, raising income of nearly \$280,000.









The Kosciuszko Foundation Annual Dinner and Ball

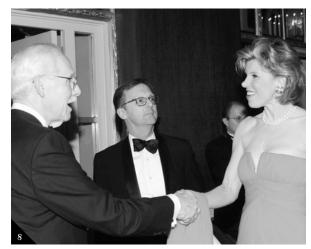
(continued from page 1)

The "Anniversary 60 �70 �80" Ball celebrated the 60th year of residency in the Foundation House in New York, the 70th year of the Foundation's Annual Ball, and the 80th anniversary of the Foundation's existence as the pre-eminent organization promoting educational and cultural relations between the United States and Poland while increasing American understanding of Polish culture and history.

(continued on page 6)





















- 1 The Fanfare Squadron of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy summoned guests to dinner in the Grand Ballroom.
- 2 The Kapella Folk Band entertained quests at the pre-Ball reception.
- 3 The National Anthems of Poland and the United States were sung by bass Krzysztof Kowalewski, a past Kosciuszko Foundation Grantee and KF Spelluto-Bonczak Voice Scholarship recipient.
- 4 Over 750 guests attended the gala Ball, dancing to the music of the Anthony Tabish Orchestra until 2:00 am.
- 5 The Fanfare Squadron of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, led by M/N Kraig S. Josephic, 1/c, heralded the opening of ceremonies from the top tier balconies of the Waldorf=Astoria Grand Ballroom.
- 6 Cadets from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy presented the colors.
- 7 (l. to r.) Kosciuszko Foundation President and Executive Director Joseph E. Gore, Esq. and Mrs. Eugenia Gore, 60♦70♦80 Anniversary Ball Chairpersons Carolyn and Joseph Topor, Jr., Medal of Recognition recipient Professor Norman Davies, Honorary Ball Chairperson Christine Baranski and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of The Kosciuszko Foundation Witold S. Sulimirski gathered at the reception prior to the Ball.
- 8 Joseph E. Gore, President and Executive Director and Christopher Broadwell, Director of Development, greeted the Ball's Honorary Chairperson, Actress Christine Baranski, at the pre-Ball reception.
- 9 Kosciuszko Foundation President and Executive Director Joseph E. Gore bestowed the Foundation's Medal of Recognition on Author and Historian Professor Norman Davies while Chairman of the Foundation's Board of Trustees Witold S. Sulimirski looked on.
- 10 Debutante Patroness Wanda Rogowski in the Polonaise.
- **11** Kosciuszko Foundation Trustees Henry C. Walentowicz, Esq. and Dr. Thaddeus V. Gromada during the pre-Ball reception.
- 12 Richard Pace, President of the Oratorio Society of New York, accepted the Kosciuszko Foundation Medal of Recognition from President and Executive Director Joseph E. Gore on behalf of world renowned contralto Ewa Podles, who was unable to participate in the ceremony.
- 13 Christine Baranski, Honorary Chairperson of the Ball, enjoyed the dance.
- 14 Witold Sulimirski, Chairman of the Kosciuszko Foundation Board of Trustees, introduced Christine Baranski, Honorary Ball Chairperson.
- 15 Miss Maya Jasinska presented bouquets to Carolyn Topor and Christine Baranski.
- 16 Christine Baranski, with guests from the Polish National Alliance of Brooklyn Table.
- 17 Members of The Kosciuszko Foundation Board of Trustees were presented on stage, including Witold S. Sulimirski, Dr. Thaddeus V. Gromada, William J. Nareski II, Wanda M. Senko, Helen Mary M. Tyszka, Maria J. Hagadus, Edward T. Mohylowski, Dr. Ewa Radwanska, Cynthia Rosicki, Esq. and Dr. Henry Sikorski. Not shown are Wojciech Uzdelewicz, Henry C. Walentowicz, Esq., Iwona Zdunczak and Trustee Emeritus Ann Mikoll, as well as National Advisory Council Chairman, Mark J. Peszko, Esq.







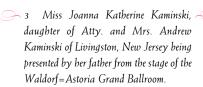
butanto





daughter of Mrs. Lidia Couzo of Buffalo New York was presented by Andrew Nalecz and escorted by Maciek Nalecz and Cadet Josh McCaskill. 2 Miss Kasia Koziol-Dube, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Dube of Unionville, Connecticut, curtseys on the





stage of the Waldorf=Astoria Grand Ballroom while her father looks on.



4 Miss Katie Lacz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stan Lacz of West Paterson, New Jersey was presented by her father and escorted by Matthew Dujets and Cadet Michael Wolk.



Miss Katarzyna Aleksandra Laskowski, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Laskowski of Oradell, New Jersey, made her formal curtsey on stage as



ber father and escorts Stefan Laskowski and Cadet Morgan Brown look on.



6 Miss Elizabth Jane McCune, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William E. McCune of Cadet Brent Smith.



Fort Worth, Texas, was escorted by her father and Cadet Tim O'Connor and 7 Miss Mariana Elizabeth Ornaf, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael M.



- Ornaf of Redding, Connecticut was presented by her father. She was escorted by her grandfather Robert Quentin and Cadet Daniel Gentry.
- 8 Miss Karalyn Katherine Rivard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mark O. Rivard of Amberst, New York being presented by her father and U.S. Military Academy Cadet escorts Joey Etchechury and Matt Claws
- Miss Victoria Marie Zawisny, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Zawisny of Staten Island New York was presented by her father and escorted by Richard Zawisny Jr. and Cadet Matt King.



FROM OUR TRUSTEES



Cynthia Rosicki, Esq.

The Debutante Ball,

To Me

If we are fortunate our daily lives, ordinarily consumed by career and family, are punctuated by events which are nothing less than extraordinary. These singular events transcend the necessary and routine, and become mile posts threading through our lives evoking both anticipation and memories. The Debutante Ball, to me, is one of these unique experiences.

The elegance, beauty, culture, charm and sophistication expressed while presenting the best of Polonia's young women, is to be found at no other place, and at no other time. This is not just another night out. The very air itself in the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf=Astoria is consumed with a palpable excitement. People are filled with the anticipation of participating in an unfolding event where one is not just a mere spectator, but a full participant in pageantry that is today exceptional.

Debutantes, parents, diplomats, the famous, the not so famous, and the fortunate, who happen upon this event, from every walk of life, are transformed from their everyday persona into an elegance and sophistication which rivals and surpasses much of what society today offers.

The richness and nobility of Polish traditions and culture are on full display colors flying, featured on a showcase that only the epicenter of New York City can offer. The Debutante Ball is a gem and a rare gem indeed. The Koscuiszko Foundation is the keeper and the steward of this treasure, and succeeding generations of officers, trustees and members have kept this entrusted legacy vibrant and new, with each successive year.

There is a timeline which connects each succeeding Ball to each other that transcends time and generations, providing a thread connecting past, present and future. Yesterday's young girl becomes today's debutante, tomorrow's chairperson, mother, aunt, grandmother, or patroness. Last year's date becomes today's fiancé or husband, and tomorrow's uncle or father of a deb. This thread runs through the fabric of those who experience the fullness and richness of this event year after year. This connection reaches its pitch the night of the Ball, yet continues in our hearts and minds the year long.

Young people, both male and female, are presented with an opportunity, not merely for a fun evening (which I can assure you from personal experience it most certainly is), but for a positive recurring experience which offers dimension, shape, light and



Representatives of Kosciuszko Foundation affiliate organizations received plaques in recognition of their dedicated service. (l.to r.) John Gmerek, the Holocaust Studies Committee, Anthony Smaczniak, Teaching English in Poland Program, Christine Kuskowski, Teaching English in Poland Program, Bernadette O'Keefe, Polish American Teachers Association, Eugenia Gore, Pro Arte League, and Dawn Polewac, Debutante Council.

AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

Honored for their Volunteer Work and Contributions at Ball

Five affiliate organizations of the Kosciuszko Foundation were honored for their volunteer work and contributions to Polish culture, the Polish-American community and the Foundation at the 60•70•80 Anniversary Ball in April. Representatives of the organizations were asked to the stage of the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City where they were awarded handsome plaques of recognition and appreciation by Mr. Joseph E. Gore, President and Executive Director of the Kosciuszko Foundation. The five organizations were the

Holocaust Studies Committee, the Teaching English in Poland Program, the Polish American Teachers Association, the Pro Arte League and the Debutante Council.

For twenty-five years the **Holocaust Studies Committee** has worked to promote accurate, balanced, and unbiased presentation of the Polish Christian experience in the Holocaust. Members of the Committee have advised the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC, and developed teaching materials. The Committee is currently involved in distributing copies of *Forgotten Survivors: Polish Christians Remember the Nazi Occupation*, edited by Richard C. Lukas. The Committee was represented by its Chairman, John Gmerek.

The **Teaching English in Poland Program**, in association with UNESCO of Poland and the Polish Ministry of Education, has administered "language immersion" camps in Poland for high school students. Over its 15 years, nearly 1,500 American teachers and assistants have taught English to nearly 9,000 students. Teachers and their assistants pay their own transportation expenses, and often contribute teaching materials as well. The Program was represented by Christine Kuskowski, its Director, and Colonel Anthony J. Smaczniak, who both taught and served as



Five of the nine debutantes presented posed on stage with their fathers and escorts.

The mere thought of that evening sends goose bumps up my spine. It was so beautiful, so elegant and so overwhelming...It is a moment I will never forget. Being presented by my father and brother to all of High Society of Polonia was such an emotional moment for me! I graced down the Grand Ballroom of the Waldorf Astoria as if I were royalty and that is just how I felt, I was a queen for the evening. I am so grateful to have had this amazing opportunity and I know I have made many new friends thanks to the Kosciuszko Foundation. I will always be part of the Foundation and I highly encourage young ladies of Polish descent to become members of the Foundation and to find out about becoming debutantes. It's something you'll never forget or ever regret!

Victoria Marie Zawisny 2005 Debutante

ebutantes invited:

The Kosciuszko Foundation is now accepting applications for debutantes to be presented to society at The Kosciuszko Foundation's 71st Annual Dinner and Ball at the Waldorf=Astoria in New York on April 22, 2006. Young ladies aged 16 to 23, with a background of scholastic achievement and community service, are invited to participate. The Debutante Cotillion is a highlight of the Ball and instills in young women a sense of traditional values, poise and conduct in sophisticated social settings. Accompanied by cadets from West Point, as well as their personal escorts and fathers, the debutantes are presented before an audience of members of the diplomatic corps, community leaders and other New York notables.

If you are interested in participating as a debutante or would like to propose a candidate, please call Dawn Polewac, Chairwoman, The Debutante Council of the Kosciuszko Foundation at (516) 931-4780 or e-mail info@thekf.org.

Carolyn and Joseph Topor, Jr. of Chicopee, Massachusetts, presided as Chairpersons of the Ball and Christine Baranski graciously served as Honorary Chairperson. Carolyn is the dynamic President of the New England Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation and the couple has done much to promote the best of Polish Culture throughout the Northeastern United States. Emmy and Tony Awardwinning actress Christine Baranski is noted for a rich theatrical career on the stage, on television and in many motion pictures.



Debutante Patroness Wanda Rogowski with her escorts Mr. George Drance and Stephen Rust

A special highlight of the evening was an award ceremony to honor Professor Norman Davies and Opera Star Ewa Podles, two stellar figures in the arts and culture of Polonia, with the Kosciuszko Foundation Medal of Recognition. Norman Davies is revered for his sensitive historical studies and publications on Europe, UK and Poland and world renowned contralto Ewa Podles is beloved for her unique vocal prowess in opera and concert works. Joseph E. Gore, President and Executive Director of the Kosciuszko Foundation bestowed the Medal of Recognition on Professor Davies, who accepted with a short statement on the importance of accurate historical research on Poland. Unfortunatley Mme. Podles was not able to stay to receive her award, but it was accepted by Mr. Richard A. Pace, President of the Oratorio Society of New York with whom Mme. Podles performed the following Monday night at Carnegie Hall. The Medal of Recognition was awarded to Mme. Podles following that performance.



TABLE HOSTS —

Sponsoring a table of 10 of more guests:

American Travel Abroad Table Maryla and Zbigniew Wegiel, bosts

Mr. and Mrs. James Barwick Table Jadzia and James Barwick, bosts

Central Semiconductor Corp. Table Jack Radgowski, bost

Marie Sklodowska-Curie Professional Women's Assoc., Inc. Table

Irene and John Krulewski, hosts

Atty. and Mrs. Joseph E. Gore Table Eugenia and Joseph Gore, hosts

The Hagan Family Table Barbara and Peter Hagan, bosts

Attv. and Mrs. Andrew Kaminski Tables (2) honoring Debutante Joanna Katherine Kaminski Bozena and Andrew Kaminski, hosts

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Dube Table honoring Debutante Kasia Koziol-Dube

Marianna Koziol-Dube and Donald Dube,

John A. Lacz Family Table

Mr. and Mrs. Stan Lacz Tables (3) honoring Debutante Katie Lacz Peggy and Stan Lacz, hosts

Laskowski Family Tables (2) honoring Debutante Katarzyna Laskowski

Misia and Richard Laskowski, hosts

Drs. Mikulski Table

Wanda and Stanislaw Mikulski hosts

Mr. Edward T. Mohylowski Table Edward Mohylowski, host

The Nareski Group Table Nancy and William J. Nareski II, hosts

Ornaf Family Table honoring Debutante Mariana Ornaf Ellen and Michel Ornaf, hosts

Atty. Mark J. Peszko Table Mark Peszko, host

Polish American Teachers

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Polewac Table Dawn and Ronald Polewac, bosts

Association Table Christine and Walter Kuskowski, hosts

Polish and Slavic Federal Credit Union Tables (2)

Andrew Kaminski, bost

Mrs. Wanda Rogowski Tables (2)

Wanda Rogowski, bost

Rosicki, Rosicki & Associates, LLC Tables (16)

Cynthia and Thomas Rosicki, hosts

Mr. and Mrs. John Senko Table Wanda and John Senko, hosts

Topor Family Table and **New England Chapter Table**

Carolyn and Joseph Topor, hosts

Mr. Thomas Warfield Table

Iwona Zdunczak and Thomas Warfield,

Western New York Chapter Table honoring Anthony Smaczniak and Karalyn Rivard

William Nowakowski, host

Zawisny Family Table honoring Debutante Victoria Marie Zawisny Bernadette and Richard Zawisny, hosts

— DONORS —

The Kosciuszko Foundation is very grateful to all of our friends who made contributions to the Ball and advertised in the Ball Journal. Special thanks are given to these donors who contributed \$1,000 and above:

AIM Management Group, Inc.

Atty. and Mrs. Joseph E. Gore

Lisa A. Ackerman, The Samuel H. Kress Foundation

Dr. Stanislaw A. Milewski

Merrill Lynch

Anna and Stanislaw (Mróz) Morris

New England Friends of the Kosciuszko Foundation

The Radgowski and Ryan Families

SAS Cargo

Drs. Henry and Francine Sikorski

The Topor Family

Wojciech Uzdelewicz and Sarah Beck, The Monterey Fund, Inc.



FROM THE PRESIDENT



Joseph E. Gore, Esq.

BEQUESTS

Year-End Wrap-Up

As you read this article, the Kosciuszko Foundation has just closed its 2005 fiscal year. In the coming weeks the Foundation will undergo its annual audit by KMPG, LLP. Though the final results won't be available until the Fall, we can anticipate that the financials will be favorable as compared to last year due to a number of new bequests which were received. Some of these were restricted for various educational studies and some unrestricted for the general operations of the Foundation but all make an impact on the Foundation's endowment and ability to perform its work.







Donation to the Kosciuszko Foundation Art Collection from the Estates of Kazimierz and Zofia Grzybowski. See page 10 for full article

The Adolph and Stephanie Bauer Educational Fund for grants and scholarships to talented students in the humanities and in art studies is a very significant addition to our listing of endowments. According to the terms of the testamentary Trust established by Mrs. Stephanie Bauer of San Francisco, the Fund is to be an integral part of the Foundation's long-standing Exchange Program between Poland and the United States. As such, the beneficiaries of the grants will be Poles as well as Polish-Americans interested in studying in Poland. So far, the Foundation has received \$1,325,000 from this Trust.

The Mary B. Calka Unitrust created an endowment fund to be used to award scholarships to Polish Americans pursuing graduate studies in the field of social services. The estimated value of this fund is \$100,000. Miss Calka of Clifton, New Jersey, was a long-time member of the Kosciuszko Foundation.

The Foundation's collection of Polish art was greatly enhanced by some 25 works consisting of paintings, works on paper and prints received from the Estates of Kazimierz and Zofia Grzybowski of Durham, North Carolina. (See accompanying article on page 10). A number of new Polish artists have been added to the Foundation's fine arts collection including Norblin, Michalowski, Gierymski and Podkowinski. The Foundation's permanent collection has been further strengthened by the addition of the works of artists already found in our collection such as Jan Matejko and Julian Falat. In addition, the Foundation inherited Professor Grybowski's library and papers. Professor Kazimierz Grzybowski was Professor of Law and Political Science at Duke University. During the 1931-1932 academic year, Professor Grzybowski was awarded a Foundation scholarship for studies at the Harvard Law

school from which he received his S.J.D. degree. Mrs. Zofia Grzybowski died on May 24, 2004 and upon her death both estates were formally administered. In addition to the above estate assets, the Foundation received a monetary bequest of approximately \$200,000.

The Foundation has also received an unrestricted bequest of approximately \$229,000 through the *Estate of Helen Mazurczyk* of Chicago, Illinois. The bequest is in memory of Mrs. Mazurczyk and her husband, Mr. Walter Mazurczyk.

Nearly five years after his death, the *Estate of Jan Karski* is finally being settled. No doubt our membership is acquainted with Dr. Karski, but let me recall that he was a courier of the Polish underground during World War II, traveling secretly between occupied Poland and England, seat of the Polish Government-in-Exile,



Jan Karski

bringing proof to the Allies of the horrors of the Warsaw Ghetto and the concentration and extermination camps. In 1944 Jan Karski published Story of a Secret State (a Book-

of-the-Month Selection) describing his wartime activities, which sold more than 360,000 copies. Dr. Karski died on July 12, 2000 and on May 2, 2005 the Maryland Court of Appeals, that state's highest court, issued its opinion in YIVO Institute for Jewish Research v. Paul Zaleski, Personal Representative for the Estate of Jan Karski ruling against YIVO which had claimed that it was entitled to nearly \$145,000 from the said Estate. The Court held that Dr. Karski's lifetime gifts to YIVO had satisfied the will's bequest to YIVO, contrary to the Institute's argument that Dr. Karski's gifts of stocks and cash during his lifetime were not intended to satisfy the bequest to YIVO in Dr. Karski's will. The Foundation had previously received various art objects from the Estate and a partial distribution of \$30,000. It has not yet been determined what the remaining unrestricted

JOZEF TISCHNER JUNIOR VISITING FELLOWS 2004 AND 2005: POLES AND POLISH-AMERICANS

In 2002 the Kosciuszko
Foundation joined Pope
John Paul II and George
Soros' Open Society Institute
with a \$50,000 grant to
support the Institute for
Human Sciences in Vienna
in establishing the Jozef
Tischner Fellowship.

The Institute is an intellectually and politically independent institute whose mission is to offer a place for research and discussion that crosses borders and disciplines. The Jozef Tischner Fellowship allows young Polish or Polish-American scholars, journalists or researchers to be visiting scholars at the Institute for one semester to concentrate on one of the Institute's main research fields. The first fellowship was awarded in 2003 to Daria Lucka.

In 2004, the jury awarded the Jozef Tischner Junior Visiting Fellowship to Michal Luczewski, a Ph.D. candidate in sociology at the University of Warsaw. Mr. Luczewski is also chairman of the Polish



Michal Luczewski

Invisible College.
During his sixmonth research stay at the Institute for Human Sciences (IWM) from July to December 2004, Mr.
Luczewski worked

on his project entitled: "National Experience: Practice and Theory of Nation in Everyday Life," conducting research, presenting several papers publicly, and preparing them for publication. Twice during his time at the Institute Mr. Luczewski presented parts of his work



Jozef Tischner, 1931-2000



to the IWM community of fellows: once in the Junior Visiting Fellow's Seminar on October 13 ("Community Monographs and Theories of Nationalism") and the other time at the Junior Fellows' Conference on December 9 ("What Remains for Nationalism Studies?").

For this forthcoming term Mikolaj Kunicki, Ph.D. in History from Stanford University was selected by the award jury to become the 2005 Jozef Tischner Junior Visiting Fellow. Dr. Kunicki is the first American-Polish scholar who will join the Institute within the framework of the Jozef Tischner Fellowship program. His doctoral dissertation titled "The Polish Crusader:

the Life and Politics of Boleslaw Piasecki, 1915-1979" was the first English-language scholarly monograph on the historically significant subject of Boleslaw Piasecki, a prominent Polish nationalist politician. The work is a thorough account of the Polish nationalistic right and provides interesting treatment of the relationship between fascism and Communism in East Central Europe.

At the Institute for Human Sciences, Dr. Kunicki will continue his work on this subject in the form of the project "The Red and the Brown: The Life and Politics of Boleslaw Piasecki (1915-1979)". He will be at the Institute from July to December 2005.



HONORARY CHAIRMAN OF THE KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION, DR. MICHAEL G. SENDZIMIR



was awarded the Commander Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland on April 29, 2005 at a ceremony at the Kosciuszko Foundation. The Commander Cross was bestowed on Dr. Sendzimir by the Honorable Agnieszka Madziak–Miszewska, Consul General of the Republic of Poland in New York, on the order of the President of Poland. Dr. Sendzimir received the Cross in recognition of his many contributions to the development of innovation and invention in Poland.







- 1. "Into the Woods"

 JULIAN FALAT (1853-1929)
- 2. "Krynica Zdroj" NIKIFOR KRYNICKI (1895-1969)
- 3. "The Boating Trip"
 WLADYSTAN PODKOWINSKI (1866-1895)

GRZYBOWSKI COLLECTION COMES TO THE KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION

In January of 2005 the Kosciuszko Foundation received its largest single donation of Polish artwork from the Estates of Zofia and Kazimierz Grzybowski.

Dr. Grzybowski, awarded the Polish Military Cross for his war time activities which included fighting as an officer of the Carpathian Brigade and serving as the Executive Officer of the Palestine Government Committee for Polish Affairs, had a distinguished career as a lawyer and an academic at Duke University. He is generally regarded as one of the world's leading specialists in the field of International Law during the cold war period. Dr. Grzybowski attributed much of his success to his early experiences at Harvard University, 1931-1932, made possible by a grant from the Kosciuszko Foundation. When he attended the First 50th Anniversary Symposium at the Foundation House in April of 1976 he must have been impressed by the Foundation's Gallery of Polish Masters and formed a plan to enhance the collection.

The Grzybowski Art Collection is comprised of paintings, works on paper, prints and books. The list of artists is impressive: Norblin, Matejko, Michalowski, Falat, Gierymski, Podkowinski, Nikifor, Topolski and more. They are mostly modest works but add a spectacular depth to our collection solidifying our predominantly 19th century base. The major works have already undergone restoration and are being added to our Gallery of Polish Masters.

The Kosciuszko Foundation is deeply grateful for the aesthetic legacy left to it with this bequest and invite members to view the collection in the Gallery the next time they are at the Foundation House.

Elizabeth Koszarski-Skrabonja Curator-in-Residence Violino I. Violino II. Viola.

Chamber Susic Series

The Fifteenth Season of the Foundation's Chamber Music Series ended in Spring 2005 with five programs featuring Polish music from the 17th to the 20th centuries. A variety of ensembles performed at the Foundation House and were also recorded for broadcast over



WQXR-FM to an audience both in New York and around the world.

These concerts brought Polish music to a large and diverse audience, live and on air, in the context of more familiar European and American repertoire.



Artur Malawski

The New Year began, appropriately, with the New York premiere of the lush *Piano Trio* of Polish composer Artur Malawski, on Sunday, January 16, in a concert by the Eaken

Piano Trio. Works of Haydn and Schubert were also included in the program.

Grammy nominated recording artists, the Eaken Trio is celebrating its 16th season of critically acclaimed concert appearances across the United States, Europe and

Canada. With numerous commercial recordings and regular appearances on national radio, the Eaken Trio is also proud of their community outreach programs and many college



Malawski lived through the wartime



The Silesian Quartet



occupation of Poland, and this experience seemed to color the music.

The next concert in the series, on February 20, by the Baroque Ensemble Rebel, jumped back 300 years, to Polish, Italian and German music of the 17th century.

Rebel is made up of 6 players (strings, harpsichord/ organ, lute) and is currently

in residence at historic Trinity Church, Wall Street in New York City, collaborating with Trinity Choir in many concerts, recordings, and WQXR-FM broadcasts. Their program was entitled "Fire, Form and Fantasy," and proved a fascinating introduction to little-known Polish composers Jarzebski (c. 1590-1649), Szarzynski (second half of the 17th century) and Mielszewski (d. 1651), alongside Italian and German contemporaries.

One of the high points of the season was the March 4 concert by the Silesian Quartet in the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall. The Quartet has been performing together since 1978, and their repertoire includes over 250 works, of which almost two hundred are by 20thcentury composers. The Silesian Quartet has premiered some 40 works by Polish and foreign composers, many of which have been dedicated to the Quartet. They perform regularly at the 'Warsaw Autumn', 'Poznañ Music Spring', and music festivals throughout Europe. Their all-Polish program included both Quartets of Szymanowski; Panufnik's Second Quartet,

NORMAN DAVIES, Famous Author and Lecturer on Polish History, Speaks At Kosciuszko Foundation



minent historian, author and lecturer Norman Davies was awarded the Medal of Recognition on the occasion of this year's Kosciuszko Foundation Dinner and Ball. The Medal, awarded at irregular intervals since 1955, honors special friends who have significantly contributed to the Foundation's mission of promoting cultural and intellectual exchanges

between Poland and the United States.

The Foundation was honored when Professor Davies gave a lecture at the Foundation on Thursday, April 28. In his talk, Professor Davies spoke about the infamous and heroic Warsaw Uprising of 1944 and reviewed the main themes of his latest book on the subject, *Rising '44*. Professor Davies spoke eloquently about the tragic loss of life, the savagery of the Nazi destruction of Warsaw, and the treachery and culpable indifference of Russia and the Western powers and his talk was followed by lively discussion, including first-person recollections by Foundation members present. After the lecture Professor Davies graciously autographed copies of his book for audience members. It was a memorable evening.

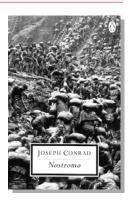
Norman Davies was born in 1939 and studied history at Oxford. Fascinated by Slavic history and culture, he went to Cracow to study at the Jagiellonian University; his doctoral work there was later published as *White Eagle, Red Star. The Polish-Soviet War 1919-20.* From 1971, Professor Davies taught Polish history at the School of East European and Slavonic Studies (SSEES) of the University of London, where he was professor from 1985 to 1996. Currently, he is Supernumary Fellow at Wolfson College, Oxford

Throughout his career, Norman Davies has lectured in many countries (USA, Canada, Australia, Japan, China, and in most European countries). The work that established his reputation in the English-speaking world was *God's Playground* (1981), a comprehensive overview of Polish history, which still ranks as the most influential. It made Professor Davies immediately popular in Poland, although - or rather because - it was banned by the Polish government and only circulated through underground copies. Next he published a more concise description of the role of the past in Polish present, entitled *Heart of Europe* (1984).

In the 1990s, Dr. Davies produced two monumental works on the history of Europe as a whole (*Europe: A History.* 1996) and the British Isles (*The Isles: A History.* 1999). Among others, he has collaborated with the BBC as well as British and American magazines and newspapers like *The Times, The New York Review of Books* and *The Independent.* In Poland, his articles have appeared in the liberal Catholic weekly *Tygodnik Powszechny.*

NOSTROMO AT 100: The Kosciuszko Foundation Hosts a Conference on Joseph Conrad in March

The Kosciuszko Foundation hosted a day-long conference on Joseph Conrad, and his novel *Nostromo*, to celebrate the achievements of Poland's master novelist, one of the great literary figures of his time. Conrad is known for *Heart of Darkness, Lord Jim*, and many other novels celebrating life at sea and the colonial experience; *Nostromo*, written a hundred years ago, is one of his most complex novels. Set in an imaginary



South American country, the novel treats issues such as



colonialism and globalization in a way that seems extraordinarily contemporary.

Professor Zdzislaw Najder, retired from the University of Opole, was the keynote speaker. He is well-known not only for his Conrad scholarship but also for his association with the origins of *Solidarity*. In his presentation, Prof. Najder pointed out that nineteenth-century Polish novelists stressed ideological and moral issues more than sentiment and romance; they

attempted to maintain the spirit of Polish cultural nationalism at a time when the country had little or no political identity. Other speakers at the conference included Jennifer L. French of Williams College; Peter L. Mallios of the University of Maryland; John Peters from the University of North Texas; Brian Richardson from the University of Maryland; Jean Szczypien of SUNY-FIT; and Wallace Watson of Duquesne University.

To give those who were unfamiliar with it an overview, a video adaptation of *Nostromo* was shown. After the video other scholars gave dramatic readings and led discussions of excerpts from *Nostromo*. The day ended with a reception and lively talk.

This conference was made possible by generous support from the *Tadeusz Solowij Literary Fund* of the Kosciuszko Foundation.

Among the guests were Elizabeth Wittlin Lipton, daughter of poet Jozef Wittlin, and Will and Alexandra Solowij Watkins, who established the fund to honor Mrs. Watkins' father.

In this same series of literary conferences, last fall the Kosciuszko Foundation presented "Witold Gombrowicz: A Centennial Celebration", with Alastair Reid reading from *Bacacay*; and "Remembering Milosz", honoring the great poet and Honorary Foundation Trustee, who had died a few months earlier.

CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES

continued from page 11



The Azure Ensemble

Messages; and the minimalist Second Quartet of Henryk Gorecki. As an encore, they announced the "entire" Penderecki Second Quartet - which took all of 8 minutes! It was a fascinating overview of 20th century Polish string chamber music, performed by one of Poland's finest ensembles.

The Silesian String Quartet's concert was presented in association with the Polish Cultural Institute, Pawel Potoroczyn, Director; and made possible with the sponsorship of Orbis Polish Travel Bureau, Inc.; Polish National Alliance of Brooklyn, USA / Home of the Alliance; Polish & Slavic Federal Credit Union; Thomas Warfield and Iwona Zdunczak; and Ann Coxe Zagoreos.

The Azure Ensemble, featured on April 17, is one of New York City's most exciting new chamber music groups, drawing its members from the finest musicians in New York City. Their concert featured the New York premiere of Un Grand Sommeil Noir...(1977) for soprano, flute, and harp by one of Poland's most respected contemporary composers Marta Ptaszynska, currently teaching in Chicago. Works of modern American and French composers filled out the program, including Debussy's ravishing Sonata for Flute, Viola, and Harp.

The season ended May 22 with a gala concert featuring Yoon Jung Han, Laureate of this year's Chopin Piano Competition, and the Connecticut Virtuosi Chamber Orchestra conducted by Adrian Mackiewicz (see Chopin Competition

article). Monika Krajewska, mezzosoprano, and Laurentiu Rotaru, bassbaritone, performed songs and arias of Kurt Weill, Franz Lehar, and Andrew Lloyd Weber. Grieg's Holberg Suite and Mozart's ever popular Eine kleine Nachtmusik brought the concert to a spectacular close.

All concerts in the Chamber Music Series were recorded and broadcast the following Sunday afternoons on WQXR, the radio station of The New York Times. This year's broadcasts were made possible by generous support from Thomas and

Cynthia Rosicki, of Rosicki, Rosicki, and Associates, Attorneys at Law, who have also committed to supporting the Chamber Music Series broadcasts for the 2005-2006 season. They have been strong supporters of the Kosciuszko Foundation for many years and in many ways; we are deeply grateful to their spirit. To learn more about Cynthia and Tom Rosicki, visit www.rosicki.com.

See the Calendar of Events for the opening of the 2005-2006 Chamber Music Series season.

FOUNDATION

COMPETITION



standing performers from across LAUREATE the U.S. competed in the 56th Kosciuszko Foundation Chopin Piano Competition, held in **56TH** April. Yoon Jung Han, a 19-year Korean native, took first prize in the Competition. Miss Han is a student at KOSCIUSZKO the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, where she works with Eleanor Sokoloff. Her prize brings a cash scholarship of \$5,000 and recital opportunities in the U.S. and Poland. She was also invited to perform Chopin's Piano Concerto No. 2 with the Connecticut Virtuosi Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Adrian Mackiewicz in a Chamber Music Series concert at the Foundation on Sunday, May 22. This summer Ms. Han is studying at the Van Cliburn Institute in Fort Worth, Texas; in the fall, recitals in Houston and Denver are planned.

Second Prize in the Competition went to Benjamin Kim, of Portland, Oregon; Mr. Kim, 22 years old, is a student of Leon Fleischer at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore. Michael Brown, a 17 year old high school student from Oceanville, New York, won Third Prize. Mr. Brown will enter The Juilliard School this fall to study with Jerome Lowenthal.

Ian Hobson, of the University of Illinois, chaired the jury for the Competition, which included Constance Keene and Ruth Laredo, both of the Manhattan School of Music; and Jerome Lowenthal, of the Juilliard School. Hobson, a Professor at the University of Illinois and a musician with an international reputation as a pianist, conductor, and teacher, was himself a Kosciuszko Foundation Competition Laureate in 1974, and went on to win numerous international contests.

The Kosciuszko Foundation Chopin Piano Competition was established in 1949, on the one hundredth anniversary of the death of Fryderyk Chopin. Held annually since then, the competition is proud to number many outstanding pianists among its winners, including Van Cliburn, Murray Perahia, and Ian Hobson. The objective of the Chopin Piano Competition is to encourage highly talented young musicians of all ethnic backgrounds and to promote study and performance of the works of Chopin, Szymanowski, and other Polish composers.



FROM OUR DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR



Chris Broadwell

CALLING ALL PROGRAM ALUMNI: Please stay in touch!

One of our scholarship program alumni recently wrote to us:





Hello to the Kosciuszko Foundation:

I participated in two summer teaching programs (Tczew & Myslenice) and two language programs (Jagiellonian & Lublin).

After studying at the Jagiellonian, I taught English in Tczew for one year at a 'community college.' In grad school, where I earned an MS in environmental policy and ecosystem management, I was awarded a Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship for Polish. I studied Polish for one year at Michigan and then returned to Poland to study in Lublin.

I am currently working in the renewable energy industry on solar electric applications. My goal is to become internationally focused and help bring solar energy to Poland.

My KF experiences were instrumental in molding my world perspective and bringing me to where I am today. If I could, I would participate in a KF program every summer.

Thanks!

Luke Lewandowski Los Angeles, CA

We enjoy receiving these personal messages. They make us happy and proud to provide such valuable programs, and they remind us that the Kosciuszko Foundation membership is a family of supporters and support recipients.

The Foundation is eager this year's Annual Dinner and

to activate some regional programs by and for our alumni so that alumni can keep in touch with each other and continue to be engaged in the programs of the Foundation, and we invite your input in this activity. We were happy at

Ball to have alumni from our Teaching English in Poland Program join together at a table for a mini reunion of their own, and we hope to initiate other gatherings of Alumni.

In response to our call for news from Alumni in our last Newsletter and E-News, we also received this message:



Dear Friends at the Kosciuszko Foundation,

I was pleased to read in your newsletter about your request for information regarding past participants in your programs of study in Poland.

During the summer of 1974, I participated in your program of study at the Jagiellonian University in Cracow. For me, the experience was particularly enlightening and helped to foster three decades of participation in Polonia. Upon completing my education, I returned to my home town of Buffalo, New York, where I have served several of our community organizations. I am a past president of the Polish Community Center of Buffalo. After serving as a member of the Board of Directors of the Polish Union of America, I became its national attorney and continued to serve in that capacity until 1993. I am a past director of the Polish Arts Club of Western New York, and am currently writing a bi-weekly column in our local ethnic newspaper, the Am-Pol Eagle. Several of these articles have made mention of my experiences in the Kosciuszko Foundation's summer program.

I believe that my travel to Poland in 1974 helped considerably to foster an interest in ethnic life in America. Additionally, this experience has helped to broaden my perspectives in ways that have helped to prepare me for my professional activities. From 1977 to 1993, I was engaged in the private practice of law. Then in 1993, I was appointed to serve as the United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of New York. I find that a knowledge of Polish culture has helped to facilitate an understanding of all of the many other cultures that are represented by individuals who may appear before me.

Thank you for this opportunity to advise you about my activities after participation in your summer studies program.

Sincerely,

Carl L. Bucki East Amberst, NY If you have participated in any of the Foundation's programs, we would like to hear from you. Tell us what you are doing now and where your life is taking you. We plan to make these updates a regular part of our Newsletter, and we would be happy to connect alumni who may have lost touch so that their Foundation experience can continue to grow.

Here is a query we received from one of our Year Abroad participants:



Hello:

I was a KF student in Cracow in October 1978 when John Paul II was elected Pope. I would like to contact colleagues who lived with me in the Piast dormitory. I have some names, and general idea where they lived. Can you help? I am trying to collect our memories of that year, especially of the Papal visits to Poland.

Here are the names I have: Cecilia Wolyniak, Herbert Smyczek, Paul Ptakowski, Paul Zuraf, Greg Maluch.

Thanks for your help.

Judith Dziedzic

And another:



Hello to you at the Foundation:

I would like to get in touch with other Year Abroad participants. I am particularly interested in Ed Mohylowski's and my class of 1974-1975. Andrew Przybylo and I are entertaining the idea of a reunion.

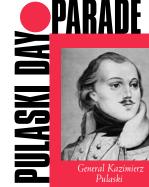
How can I contact others in this group?

Thanks!

Gosia Chciuk-Niemiec

If you are one of Judith's or Gosia's colleagues, please feel free to send us a message and we will pass it on and help to arrange a reunion.

Keep in touch - with us and with each other. Just e-mail us at alumni@thekf.org or send us a note to Alumni, The Kosciuszko Foundation, 15 East 65th Street, New York, NY 10021



For the first time in many years The Kosciuszko Foundation will proudly join Grand Marshal Antoni Chroscielewski and take part in the 68th Annual Pulaski Day Parade down Fifth Avenue on Sunday, October 2, 2005. The Parade is named in honor of General Kazimierz Pulaski who, like Tadeusz Kosciuszko, came to American shores to fight for this countryis freedom. The Parade emphasizes and propagates Polish culture and heritage in the community and among Polish-American youth.

The Kosciuszko Foundation Annual Dinner and Ball (continued from page 6)

Nine lovely debutantes were presented to society at the cotillion during the Ball, under the guidance of Debutante Patroness Wanda L. Rogowski. Presented were Veronica Couzo, daughter of Ms. Lidia Couzo of Buffalo, New York; Joanna Katherine Kaminski, daughter of Atty. and Mrs. Andrew Kaminski of Livingston, New Jersey: Kasia Koziol-Dube, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Dube of Unionville,



Under the direction of Daniel Dziadura, members of the Polish American Folk Dance Company led the Polonaise.

Connecticut; Katie Lacz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Lacz of West Paterson, New Jersey; Kasia Laskowski, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Laskowski of Oradell, New Jersey; Elizabeth Jane McCune, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William E. McCune of Fort Worth, Texas; Marianna Elizabeth Ornaf, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Ornaf of Redding, Connecticut; Karalyn Katherine Rivard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Rivard of Amherst, New York; and Victoria Marie Zawisny, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Zawisny of Staten Island, New York.

Adding to the elegance and élan of the evening were a color guard and chorus of 14 trumpeteers, the Fanfare Squadron of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. Cadets from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point served as escorts for the nine debutantes. In addition dancers from the Polish American Folk Dance company and musicians from the folk band, Kapella, presented a delightful blend of incidental pageantry and music. Guests danced until 2:00 am to the music of the Anthony Tabish Orchestra.

The Kosciuszko Foundation is the premier American organization promoting understanding and friendship between the peoples of Poland and the United States through educational, scientific and cultural exchanges. The Foundation typically awards one million dollars each year in fellowships and grants to some 200 graduate students, scholars, scientists, professionals and artists. It also showcases Polish culture in America through exhibits, publications, film festivals, documentaries, performances, concerts and recitals.



Joseph Gore, Christine Baranski, Witold Sulimirski, and Carolyn and Joseph Topor celebrated the Foundation's triple anniversaries of 60 years in the Foundation House, 70 years of the Annual Ball and 80 years of the Foundation's existence with a lavish cake and singing "Sto Lat!"

KOSCIUSZKO FOUNDATION CHIAPTERS



EW ENGLAND

In February the New England Chapter along with the World Affairs Council and the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning at Elms College cosponsored a panel entitled "Poland's Future Role in Europe: The EU and Beyond." The free and public event included panelists Marek Lesniewski-Laas, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Poland, Dr. M.P. Biskupski, Stanislaus A. Blejwas Endowed Chair in Polish and Polish-American Studies at CCSU, Mr. Gary L. LeFort, President, Business and Government Services & Dean of Business at American

International College and Dr. Robert Rothstein, Professor of Slavic and Judaic Studies at UMass-Amherst.

The Chapter held its 5th Annual Awards Luncheon and Concert on April 3 at Mount Holyoke College. Nearly 200 members and friends gathered to honor the twenty Kosciuszko Foundation Scholarship and Grant recipients from New England. Chapter President Carolyn Topor welcomed the attendees with these remarks: "....We have heavy hearts because of the death yesterday of our beloved Pope John Paul II. But we gather here today to celebrate and honor the dedication and accomplishments of many young people who will make a difference in this world because of their work in science, social work, medicine, finance, literature and fine arts." Yale, Boston University, Columbia, Rice, UConn, Cornell and Mount Holyoke were among the colleges represented by the grantees. A concert titled "Mazurka, the Dance of the Polish Soul" was presented by pianist Anna Kijanowska, a Kosciuszko Foundation grant recipient.

For the first time the Chapter has awarded prizes to two Elms College students for papers written on a Polish topic. They were awarded to Kristina Hoadley, a nursing major from Granville, MA who wrote on Polish migration in Western Massachusetts and to Luis Sostra, a senior from Springfield, MA majoring in Social Work who wrote about the *Pope's Influence on the Rise of Solidarity and the Fall of Communism.*









Twenty New England area residents received Kosciuszko Foundation scholarships and grants for the academic year. The New England Chapter bonored them at its Annual Awards Luncheon and Concert.

Domestic Study Scholarship Recipients:

Agnieszka Kulas, Agnieszka Kurzyna, Mary Bowen, Wioletta Pawlowska, Jessica Molleur, Colleen McQuillen, Kathleen Galek, Anne Malbowski, Teresa Puk, Aleksandra Stark,

Study in Poland Grant Recipients: Ewa Nowicka, Siobhan Doucette

Summer Sessions Scholarship Recipients:

Jadwiga Biskupska, Kamila Grec, Tanya Kokoszyn, Philip Szajda, Peter Szymanski

Exchange Scholars from Poland in New England:

Agata Bielik, Magdalena Szelc-Mays, Ryszard Zajaczkowski The Chapter celebrated its Eleventh Annual Christmas Concert in the splendor of the Montrose Mansion (at the Villanova Conference Center) on Sunday, December 19, 2004. Over 150 members and friends gathered to hear a musical performance by three extremely talented Polish artists from New York: Krzysztof Kuznik, Barabara Blonska and Rafal Jezierski. Following the concert, guests enjoyed a buffet meal with Polish delicacies. The annual Christmas concert affords members an opportunity to gather together and share holiday cheer.

The Chapter has issued a Chapter Newsletter for the January-March 2005 period. The Chapter Newsletter is an effective way to keep members informed of the Chapter's activities. Another issue is being planned for the winter/spring period.



On Sunday, August 28 at 4:00 p.m. the Chapter will present its first Annual Summer Concert and Cocktail Party at the Montrose Mansion, featuring trumpeter Marek Skwarczynski. For information and tickets please call 610-696-7219.

In October the Texas Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation presented its Seventh Annual Chopin Piano Concert at the Moores Opera Houston at the University of Houston. The concert featured Mr. Stephen Beus, Second Prize Winner of the 2004 Chopin Piano Competition in New York City. The performance was splendid and the Chapter received many extremely favorable comments from members of the audience. The concert was preceded by remarks by Prof. Waldemar Priebe, Chapter President, and after the concert a reception was held for the pianist and audience of around 300.

In November the Texas Chapter in conjunction with the Polish American Congress and other Polish cultural and historical organizations celebrated the 150th anniversary of the founding of Panna Maria, an early Polish frontier settlement in Texas. This event was widely celebrated at a variety of functions: exhibitions of Polish-American painting, a concert at the Wortham Center in Houston, cultural gatherings, picnics and even a meeting with former President Lech Walesa. A one-day symposium at Rice University sponsored by the Texas Chapter was organized by Professors Marek Kimmel and Waldemar Priebe. The symposium included presentations by world-renowned Polish scientists as well as a special appearance by His Excellency, Prof. Przemyslaw Grudzinski, Ambassador of the Republic of Poland.

The Texas Chapter lent a great deal of support to the organization and media promotion of the Kosciuszko Foundation Annual Dinner and Ball, a premier Polonia event which was held at the Waldorf=Astoria Hotel in New York City.

The Chapter plans to sponsor and organize a vocal recital featuring Ms. Edyta Kulczak, a most promising new performer with

the New York Metropolitan Opera. Proceeds from the recital will be donated to the creation of a special collection of recordings of the musical works of Polish composer Sir Andrzej Panufnik, to be performed by Maestro Mariusz Smolij with the Warsaw Chamber Orchestra.

STERN NEW YORK

The Western New York Chapter of the Kosciuszko Foundation held its annual luncheon and election of officers and directors in January at the Buffalo Club. Elected as directors were Hon. Ann Mikoll, Stefania Borkowska, Robert Ciesielski, Elisa Banas, Mark Peszko, Robert Fronckowiak, and Lucas Mazur. Elected as officers were William E. Nowakowski (President), David Smaczniak (Vice President), Wiesia Abczynski (treasurer), David Pfaff (Secretary).



Debutante Karalyn Rivard

The Chapter was very active in supporting the Foundation's annual dinner and Ball by placing a full page advertisement in the Ball Journal and sponsoring two

debutantes from the area, Miss Veronica Couzo and Miss Karalyn Rivard. In addition more

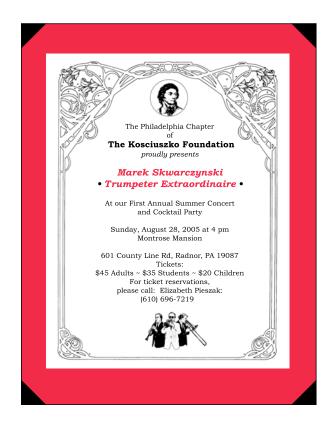


Debutante Veronica Couzo

than two tables of Western New Yorkers attended that Ball.

The Chapter is planning many events for the

upcoming fall season. The annual fundraiser cocktail reception will be held in September at the home of Mark Peszko, Esq. A concert by the winner of this year's Chopin Piano Competition is planned. A documentary of Buffalo Polonia by WNED television is expected to be completed shortly and special programming is being planned for the fall debut of the program.





Thank you The following of

The following contributions were received by the Foundation between November 16, 2004 and June 13, 2005 in memory of:

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Catherine S. Stukowski

Wanda and Eugene Novak Paul M. Novak

Space is still available!



FROM THE PRESIDENT

continued from page 8

distribution from the Estate to the Foundation will be.

Since the Foundation was established in 1925, it has been the Stephanie Bauers, the Mary Calkas, the Kazimierz and Zofia Grzybowskis, the Helen Mazurczyks and the Jan Karskis who have had the dedication and vision, the understanding of the importance of the Foundation's mission and, of course, the generosity to impact the development of the Foundation. It is individuals such as these that have made the work of the Foundation possible. The Foundation's endowment exists almost entirely thanks to the generosity of members and friends who have chosen to memorialize their loved ones through the establishment of funds at the Foundation. In turn, their generosity has in perpetuity enabled thousands of young people in the United States and Poland to pursue studies and research. If you would like to be a part of this vision and legacy, please contact me or the Foundation's Office of Development to learn how to include the Foundation in your estate plan.

Joseph E. Gore, Esq.

President and Executive Director

THE DEBUTANTE BALL, TO ME

continued from page 5

depth to their character and to their life. This is more than an opportunity to enter society. It is an invitation to enter a select community, where culture and intellect, as well as elegance and beauty sparkle. An opportunity indeed.

As a Trustee, who has attended 30 Koscuiszko Debutante Balls; who has been a debutante, a patroness, an aunt of a debutante, the daughter of a patroness, a chairperson, a hostess of many guests, and last but not least, having met my husband Tom at the Ball, I can attest that, to me, it has been a life-changing event. My life would have been profoundly different, and missing some its finest facets, without this experience.

On the very last page of every Ball journal each year is a cordial invitation to next year's Ball, with the date, time and place. To me, this small reminder provides a comfort and a certainty that this gem is sparkling, this legacy thrives, and this very precious thread continues.

And I know just where I'll be on that date.

Cynthia Rosicki Trustee

AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

continued from page 5

Regional Coordinator for the Foundation's Western New York Chapter for ten years.

For thirty years the **Polish American Teachers Association** has organized outreach programs for students and educators. There have been holiday programs, including a "Sw. Mikolaj" celebration at Christmas; plays on Polish subjects, like the lives of Chopin and Kopernik; an annual story-telling contest; and presentations with the Polish American Folk Dance Company. The Association was represented by its President, Bernadette O'Keefe.

The **Pro Arte League** has, for 35 years, raised funds for the maintenance and beautification of the Kosciuszko Foundation House. Among its many projects were supporting the construction of new stairs

to the lower level during renovation some years ago, new main entry doors and, most recently, the conservation and restoration of the painting "Before the Storm," by W.T. Benda (now highlighted in the Rotunda). The League was represented by its President, Eugenia Gore.

The **Debutante Council** has organized presentations of the debutantes and their patronesses from the earliest years of the Ball, the Foundation's main fundraising event. The Council screens applications, sponsors a lunch honoring the debutantes and their families, and works with service academies for the program at the Ball itself. The Council was represented by its current Chairman, Dawn Polewac, who has served the Council for many years as a member and chief organizer.

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